

MINUTES
INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
April 28, 2010 - 7:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL ANNEX - COMMUNITY ROOM 2

I. ROLL CALL

Agency: Sutphen, Ashworth, Block, Furlong, Williams (7:04 pm)
Staff: Jones, Silsby

The meeting was called to order by Acting Chairperson Sutphen 7:02 p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS – None.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF April 14, 2010

MOTION: To approve the minutes of April 14, 2010, as amended.

A typo will be corrected.

Motion made by Ashworth, seconded by Block, so voted 4 in favor, 1 abstention (Block)

IV. NEW APPLICATIONS

1. Electric Boat Soil Remediation Site, 456 Poquonnock Road

Steven Ewing, Vice President of Woodard & Curran in New Jersey and Applicant Paul Williams were present for the application. Soil remediation at the Building #775 Demolition site is being proposed. Ewing reviewed the seven areas that are to be remediated. The wetland locations were reviewed. It was explained that each excavation area will be protected with silt fencing and hay bales, as needed. The remediated areas will be back-filled, soiled, seeded, and stabilized. Contaminated material will be taken off-site and will be disposed of according to state standards and coordinated with DEP.

Discussion ensued about soil testing and monitoring. Staff review will be done on 5/11/10. Relative to work proposed on Town property, Williams stated that he has already approached the Town about requesting permission.

V. PENDING

1. St. Andrews Presbyterian Church Parking Lot Reconstruction, 310 Fort Hill Road

Tabled until the next IWA meeting scheduled for May 12, 2010.

2. Reardon Property, 0 Starr Street

Applicant Robert Reardon, Jr. and Soil Scientist Donald Fortunato, were present for this application.

Reardon gave an overview of the project which includes installation of a sewer line for lot 2, the installation of a 12-foot wide driveway and utilities on lot 2 within the

regulated area, clearing of invasive species, reconstruction of stone walls, and installation of footing drains for both lots.

Fortunato stated that 10 feet on each side of the driveway is allowed for clearing. The plan involves cutting down the bittersweet and other invasives. A conservation mix will be used on the down and up slopes. He spoke about work being done outside of the 100 foot upland review area.

Staff recommends that the portions of the driveways in excess of 15% slope be paved. Sutphen agreed.

Discussion followed about stabilization, grading, and the width and location of the driveway. Staff stated that the Fire Marshall requests the 12-foot width of the driveway. Staff reviewed the work involving the bittersweet near the stone wall, the construction of the driveway, the underground utilities, footing drains, and the sewer line.

MOTION: To approve the Reardon Property application for the following reasons:

1. There is no loss of wetlands or watercourses as a result of this project.
2. The regulated area is an abandoned field, overgrown with invasive vegetation and the proposed native plantings will provide wildlife habitat.
3. The erosion control plan will limit the possibility of erosion during construction.

This permit is subject to the five standard conditions and the following additional conditions:

1. The plans shall be revised to include the planting and maintenance schedule for the work in the regulated area.
2. Those portions of the driveway in excess of 15% slope shall be paved.

Motion made by Block, seconded by Williams, so voted unanimously

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Town of Groton Request for Support for Land Acquisition, 155 and 0 Thomas Road

Staff explained that the Town is submitting a grant application for funding from the DEP Open Space and Watershed Protection Program to purchase this property. She reviewed the location with the Agency. A letter describing the resources has been drafted.

The Agency noted the letter is similar to the one written for the GOSA application and agreed that it should be sent.

2. Report of Chair

Block inquired about the condition of Eccleston Brook since the flood a few weeks ago. Staff stated that the Town will be stabilizing the area near the intersection of Fishtown Road and Route 1. Sutphen reported that there is sand traveling toward the cove. Staff doesn't think that that can be done now because fish are spawning in the Brook. She noted that once the spawning time is over, additional options may exist. Sutphen feels stabilizing the area between Fishtown Road and the Brook should be a priority. Staff will discuss with Public Works.

3. Report of Staff

Staff stated that an enforcement letter will soon be going out to the abutting property owner to the Crandall property on Lambtown Road.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Barbara Block, Secretary
Inland Wetland Agency

Prepared by Robin Silsby
Office Assistant II